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Message Text

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45
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 PPTE-00 SCA-01 VOE-00 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 INSE-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 PC-05

NEAE-00 /076 W
---------- 028512
R 161040Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1348
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS DOHA 0288

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTRA, CGEN, QA
SUBJ: "TEMPORARY" SUSPENSION OF 72-HOUR BUSINESS VISA AT DOHA
AIRPORT

1. AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN ARE WARNED TO OBTAIN BUSINESS VISAS
BEFORE ENPLANING FOR QATAR. EMBASSY URGES ADDRESSEES TO
INFORM INTERESTED BUSINESSMEN THAT GOQ HAS TEMPORARILY CEASED
ISSUING 72-HOUR BUSINESS VISAS AT DOHA AIRPORT. PREVIOUSLY
AMERICAN AND OTHER BUSINESSMEN COULD GAIN ENTRY BY SHOWING LETTER
FROM QATARI BUSINESS FIRM SHOWING THAT BUSINESSMAN HAD LEGITIMATE

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BUSINESS IN QATAR. DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, PASSPORTS, AND CITIZEN-

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SHIP ADVISED THAT THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS UNTIL CONCLUSION OF GULF GAMES, A SOCCER TOURNAMENT BEING HOSTED BY QATAR, ABOUT APRIL 15. REASON GIVEN FOR TIGHTENING OF ENTRY IS NEED FOR INCREASED TRAVELER CONTROL DURING PERIOD OF THE GAMES.

2. COMMENT: GIVEN TIGHTENING VISA RESTRICTIONS IN OTHER GULF STATES, THESE "TEMPORARY" RESTRICTIONS MAY TURN OUT TO BE PERMANENT. EMBASSY WILL ADVISE IF AND WHEN RESTRICTION IS LIFTED.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPT TO CONTACT QATAR EMBASSY TO DETERMINE WHAT IS THE ACTUAL VISA-ISSUING PRACTICE AT MOMENT.
YOUNG

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NNN

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Draft Date: 16 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: DOHA
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